

Message Text

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16

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01

TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 FEA-01 /093 W

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R 011712Z OCT 75

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9660

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 1131

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EEC

SUBJECT: COMMISSION PRESENTATION TO THE EC COUNCIL ON COUNTER-
VAILING DUTIES, DUMPING, ETC

REF EC BRUSSELS 8521

1. FIELDING HAS INFORMED US THAT SOAMES NOW EXPECTS TO MAKE A SHORT ORAL PRESENTATION TO THE EC COUNCIL OCT 6-7 ON THE QUESTION OF POSSIBLE US ACTIONS UNDER THE TRADE ACT. ACCORDING TO FIELDING, TRADE FIGURES SHOW THAT THE COMMUNITY WILL FOR THE FIRST HALF OF 1975 HAVE A TRADE DEFICIT WITH THE UNITED STATES OF OVER \$3 BILLION, OF WHICH \$2.2 BILLION IS A DEFICIT ON AGRICULTURAL TRADE. THE ECONOMIC SITUATION IN THE COMMUNITY IS DIFFICULT. PRESSURES IN THE COMMUNITY FOR PROTECTIONISM ARE MOUNTING AND MEMBER STATES WILL BE UNDER GROWING PRESSURE TO CATER TO DOMESTIC INTERESTS.

2. THE FACT THAT THE TRADE FIGURES SHOW THAT THE COMMUNITY WILL ON AN ANNUAL BASIS RUN A TRADE DEFICIT OF ABOUT \$6 BILLION WITH THE UNITED STATES IN 1975 AND THAT IN ADDITION IT WILL HAVE TO FIND THE FOREIGN EXCHANGE TO PAY ITS OIL BILL, MAKES THE
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COMMUNITY EXCEPTIONALLY SENSITIVE TO THE POSSIBILITY THAT

OVER 20 PERCENT OF ITS EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES COULD POSSIBLY BE JEOPARDIZED BY COUNTERVAILING, ANTI-DUMPING OR OTHER DUTIES. CONSEQUENTLY, THE COMMISSION FEELS THE NEED TO ASSURE THE COUNCIL THAT IT IS PAYING ATTENTION TO THESE MATTERS. SOAMES' STATEMENT WILL ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE US ADMINISTRATION IS BASICALLY COMMITTED TO A LIBERAL TRADE POSITION AS EXEMPLIFIED BY STATEMENTS OF PRESIDENT FORD AND AMBASSADOR DENT. HOWEVER, THE RECENT RUN OF INVESTIGATIONS UNDER THE TRADE ACT DO CAUSE CONCERN. SOAMES WILL INDICATE THAT HE INTENDS TO TAKE THIS MATTER TO THE CABINET LEVEL IN THE UNITED STATES DURING HIS MEETINGS IN NOVEMBER. SUBSEQUENT TO THAT MEETING, THE COMMISSION WILL REASSESS THE MATTER AND WILL REPORT BACK TO THE COUNCIL IF ANY FURTHER DISCUSSION SEEMS NECESSARY.

3. WE TOLD FIELDING THAT THE COMMISSION SHOULD KEEP IN MIND THAT THE RECENT PETITIONS ARE RESPONSES TO CHANGES IN US PROCEDURES AND DO NOT INDICATE A CHANGE IN THE ADMINISTRATION POSITION. GREENWALD

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Message Attributes

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